



## **SPORT TOURISM SCHEME 2023**

Registered National Sports Organisations (Federations, Associations, Clubs), compliant with the Commissioner for Voluntary Organisations are eligible to apply for Sport Tourism Scheme.

### **Definitions**

For the purposes of this scheme, the following shall be deemed to be the definitions intended as guidelines for SportMalta in order to determine the monetary grants that the types of entities shall be entitled to benefit from and for sports entities to calculate the said amounts:

**Sports Activity / Event** – Competition, tournament, friendly matches, training camps, seminars, conferences and educational activities which are sports related.

**High Season** – activity or event being held between the 1st of May and the 31st of October of the particular year.

**Low Season** – activity or event being held between the 1st of November and the 30th of April of the particular year. For the purposes of this scheme, activities and events held in Gozo shall be considered to be Low Season all year round.

### **Introduction**

Malta's climate offers the ideal destination to attract sporting activities and events to Malta and Gozo. For many years, SportMalta has, in collaboration with the Malta Tourism Authority, introduced schemes in relation to this factor and has, through experience, improved the scheme to become more effective and beneficial to the sports scenario in Malta. The scheme has been revamped, such that sports entities can benefit in a just and equitable manner, depending on the size of their organised event and the amount of the bed-nights generated by the foreign participants. To this effect, Federations, Associations and Clubs and are being encouraged to participate in this scheme and benefit from:



## **Scheme 1 - Putting Malta on the Sports Map**

A monetary grant which shall be granted to sports entities preparing and presenting their bid for the organisation of an international event in Malta and/or Gozo. This assistance may consist in the provision of services by SportMalta in order to assist the sports entity prepare a draft of the bidding document, the preparation of promotional material, purchase of uniforms for delegation etc. Sports entities applying under this section of the scheme may benefit from a grant of up to 75% of the actual expenses incurred in relation to the purchasing of bidding material, flights, and accommodation abroad. Any sport entity may apply for this pre-bidding scheme once every calendar year.

The financial grant is to be utilised for the travelling expenses of not more than two officials presenting the bid to organise the event in Malta, following approval by SportMalta of the actual bidding material which is prepared to be presented to the International Federation. The amounts granted by SportMalta shall be determined by a Board purposely formed to examine the applications and the relevance of the event being brought to Malta.

### ***Documentation required at Application Stage***

1. Application duly filled in, with all the required details in the same application;
2. Documentation related to the activity for which the sports entity will be bidding to host in Malta / Gozo including any documentation issued by the international entity under the auspices of which the activity or event will be organised;
3. An indication of the estimated amount of bed nights which is reasonably expected to be generated through the activity or event, if the bid is won by the Maltese sports entity;
4. Any and all other documentation requested by SportMalta which may assist SportMalta in evaluating the application.

### ***Documentation required at Submission of Claim***

Following SportMalta's approval of funding, a commitment letter is issued to the applicant, together with the financial claim form that shall be used at claim stage. Original fiscal receipts (or any other proof of payments as specified in the [Terms of Reference](#)) for anything falling within the approved assistance, must be submitted for the approved funding to be released. The following shall be provided at claim stage:

1. Original / Official receipts (or tax invoice with proof of payment) of all expenses included in the commitment letter (reimbursement of cash payments without official/original receipt may not be issued);
2. The official document presented for the official bid;



## **Scheme 2 - Generation of bed nights**

A monetary grant calculated on the amount of bed nights generated through athletes, officials and any other person accompanying / travelling with the respective team taking into account the season (period) in which the activity or event will be taking place. The amounts granted by SportMalta shall be determined by a Board purposely formed to examine the applications and the relevance of the event being brought to Malta, taking into account the following rates.

Season	Rate
<b><i>Amount per Bednight - High Season (1<sup>st</sup> May to 31<sup>st</sup> Oct)</i></b>	€ 7
<b><i>Amount per Bednight - Low Season (1<sup>st</sup> Nov to 30<sup>th</sup> Apr)</i></b>	€ 10

A grant of € 300 per event day for a maximum of four days, will also be granted to the sports entity as an allowance to organise the event.

In order for a sports entity to be eligible to benefit from this scheme, foreign athletes (residing outside of Malta and/or Gozo) need to have intentionally travelled and stayed in Malta and/or Gozo for the purpose of participating in the activity and/or event. It is highly recommended that arrangements are made with hotels targeted for lodging in order to avoid insufficiency of documentation at claim stage. It is the sports entity's responsibility to ensure that the hotels utilised for the event are officially licensed by the Malta Tourism Authority and have their licenses paid up for the year in which the event is taking place.

### ***Documentation required at Application Stage***

1. Application duly filled in with all the required details in the same application,
2. Documentation related to the activity being held,
3. Indication of the estimated amount of bed nights which is reasonably expected to be generated through the activity or event;
  - a. If at time of claim it's noticed that during application process there was an over estimated amount by over 20%, the applicant may jeopardize funding for the following year, thus the importance to indicate a fair and reasonable estimated amount at application stage.
4. Any and all other documentation requested by SportMalta which may assist the Assistance Committee in evaluating the application.



## ***Documentation required at Submission of Claim***

Following SportMalta's approval of funding, a commitment letter is issued to the applicant, together with the financial claim form that shall be used at claim stage. The following shall be provided at claim stage:

1. A completed Financial Claim form;
2. A declaration printed on a letterhead of the hotel where the athletes, sport officials and other persons travelling with the teams have sojourned, signed by a hotel official at managerial level, including the following:
  - a. The dates on which the foreign persons sojourned in the hotel;
  - b. The amount of bed-nights generated by foreign persons through the event by confirming the amount of eco-tax paid in direct relation to the activity / event (provided that bed-nights shall be calculated by multiplying the amount of persons multiplied by the amount of nights when the persons sojourned in the hotel).
3. Hotel official licence paid for year 2023 issued by the Malta Tourism Authority;
4. A report which gives a summary of activities and other matters relating to the sporting activity and/or event;
5. A copy of valid compliancy letter from Commissioner for Voluntary Organizations.

The allocation of funds to the applicants shall be determined by the SportMalta assistance board, following the submission of all applications and in accordance with established criteria, in order to ensure fair distribution amongst applicants. To this effect, the date of submission of application will no longer be given any weight/guarantee of award or of the maximum award, when determining the allocation of funds, provided that the application must be submitted within the stipulated timeframes.

In order to facilitate matters for applicants, a list of individuals generating the bed nights is not being requested in any of the stages of application and claim. However, SportMalta reserves the right to request further information.



## **Application Process:**

Application Form may be downloaded from the following link: <http://sportmalta.mt/assistance-schemes/sport-tourism-scheme/>

Signed Application Form shall reach SportMalta's office by the stipulated deadline mentioned on SportMalta's website, by sending it by e-mail to [assistances.sportmalta@sportmalta.org.mt](mailto:assistances.sportmalta@sportmalta.org.mt).